BOLTO
-ボルト-

-TWO BLUE VORTEX-
-ボルトートゥー ブルー ボルテックス

◎27: Bet Your Life On It

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BORUTO

-TWO BLUE VORTEX-

SHF

...?!

...WITHOUT EITHER OF YOU EVEN REALIZING YOU WERE DEAD.
YOU GET IT NOW, RIGHT?
I COULD SNUFF YOU BOTH OUT ON A WHIM, IN AN INSTANT...

SHF...

IT'S UNNATURAL, NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...

...HOW THE TWO OF YOU, WHO ARE NOT OHTSUTSUKI...

...MANAGED TO ELUDE OMNI-POTENCE'S INFLUENCE...

...

SO WHY DIDN'T YOU?

IS IT BECAUSE BORUTO, AN OHTSUTSUKI, HAS STOLEN YOUR HEARTS?

NO... THAT ALONE CAN'T EXPLAIN IT.

...WHO CARRY A TORCH FOR KAWAKI AND BORUTO.

THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHERS, BOTH IN AND OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE...

SO IF THAT'S ALL IT TAKES TO EVADE MY ***ABILITY***...

...THEN THERE OUGHT TO BE MORE PEOPLE LIKE YOU OUT THERE.

BUT THERE AREN'T.

IT'S JUST THE TWO OF YOU.

...

WHICH LEAVES JUST ONE POSSI-BILITY.

...YOU BOTH.

I MUST'VE EXCLUDED...

...AND OMNI-POTENCE MADE IT HAPPEN.

I MUST'VE WISHED IT TO BE SO...

UNCON-SCIOUSLY, OF COURSE.

SARADA, REMEMBER...

...WHAT YOU SAID THAT DAY?

...

BUT WHY?

...

HOW ABOUT...

...WE JUST BE...

...ORDINARY FRIENDS?

EVEN BEFORE ...

...I MET YOU IN PERSON.

BECAUSE ...

...THAT WAS SOMETHING I'D BEEN WANTING FOREVER.

IT MADE ME SO HAPPY...

...EITHER WAY, IT REPRE-SENTED THE KIND OF...

...NORMAL INTER-PERSONAL RELATION-SHIPS I'D BEEN WISHING FOR.

MAYBE SINCE WE WERE ALL PEOPLE WHOSE HEARTS HAD BEEN STOLEN BY OKTSUTSUKI?

I'M NOT 100 PERCENT SURE, BUT...

AND BESIDES ...

I REALLY DON'T SEE...

...EITHER OF YOU TRYING TO HARM ME AT THIS POINT.

...IF YOU *WERE* THE ONES TO KILL ME.

...I ACTUALLY DON'T THINK I'D MIND ANY-MORE...

GRP

...

HUH ?!

...

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF...

...A MUTUAL LIFE-OR-DEATH FRIEND-SHIP...

SO THEN...

...WHAT'S WITH THIS BOLD HUG, SARADA?

SHF

...

IT'S PROOF OF MY RESOLVE...

...AS WELL AS OF MY FRIEND-SHIP.

...

IT'S THE EPITOME OF EXCITEMENT!

I'M NOT OPPOSED TO THE IDEA...

...OF RISKING MY LIFE ON A FRIENDSHIP.

BOTH OF YOU.

THANK YOU.

ONCE AGAIN, IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU...

...MY VERY DEAR FRIENDS...

...

DIVISION?

MAMUSHI WILL UNDERGO ***DIVISION.***

IT'S ONE OF HIS ABILITIES.

AND THERE'S ALMOST NO LIMIT...

...TO HOW MANY HE CAN BECOME.

NO, THEY'RE TOTALLY DIFFERENT.

THE BIGGEST DISTINCTION...

...IS THAT EACH INDIVIDUAL IS A REAL HIM.

THEREFORE, THERE'S NO SPLITTING OF CHAKRA...

...NOR OF POWER OR PHYSICAL STRENGTH.

SO THEY'RE LIKE SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGERS?

THE ONLY DRAW-BACK...

...IS THAT AS HE CREATES MORE OF HIMSELF...

...THERE'S A SIGNIFICANT DROP IN INTELLI-GENCE.

HE CAN MULTIPLY FULL-STRENGTH VERSIONS OF HIMSELF?

THAT'S REALLY BAD NEWS.

SO YOU'RE SAYING OUR BEST CHANCE...

...IS TO WAIT UNTIL THEY'VE BECOME STUPID ENOUGH...

...THEN CUT THEM ALL DOWN AT ONCE?

PLUS, HIS SENSE OF PAIN DULLS, AND HIS BEHAVIOR BECOMES SIMPLER.

THESE ARE WEAK-NESSES THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO EXPLOIT.

AND THIS IS CRUCIAL.

ONE MORE THING.

PRECISELY.

THE ONES WHO'VE LOST THEIR EYES WON'T BE ABLE TO DIVIDE FURTHER.

YOU *MUST* DESTROY BOTH EYES.

...EACH REMAINING ONE'S INTELLIGENCE WILL IMPROVE.

BUT BE CAREFUL.

AS THEIR HEAD COUNT DECREASES ...

!

THEIR EYES?

...AS IF YOU WERE DEALING WITH ANIMALS.

LET HIM REACH 20 TO 30 BODIES.

TAKING THEM ALL OUT IN ONE SWOOP THEN WOULD BE IDEAL.

THEY'LL BECOME EASIER TO HANDLE...

IF WE ACCIDENTALLY LEAVE A FEW ALIVE, THEY'LL EACH BE HARDER TO DEAL WITH.

I SEE...

...BUT IF THEY INCREASE TO TOO MANY, WE'LL BE IN OVER OUR HEADS TOO.

THE DIVIDED INDIVIDUALS CAN'T HELP FLOCKING TOGETHER.

NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.

...INSTINCT WOULD CAUSE THAT ONE TO HOME IN ON AND REJOIN THE REST.

SO EVEN IF THEY MADE ONE WAIT BEHIND...

...MAMUSHI LEAVES ONE OF HIMSELF BACK AT THEIR BASE.

LET'S JUST SUPPOSE ...

GETTING RID OF ALL THE ONES IN THE VILLAGE WOULDN'T WIPE HIM OUT ENTIRELY, WOULD IT?

YOU'RE RIGHT...

!

WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO CONFRONT AND ENGAGE HIM IN KONOHA?

UM...

JUST WONDER-ING..

...JUST PRE-EMPTIVELY STRIKE BEFORE HE COMES INVADING?

IF WE KNOW ALL THIS, SHOULDN'T WE...

I SEE...

AND THAT'LL BE MORE LIKELY THE DUMBER HE IS.

...

IF EITHER MOVES, HE WILL.

JURA'S TARGETS ARE BORUTO AND HIMAWARI.

...HE WON'T APPEAR.

BUT IF KONOHA IS THE BATTLE-FIELD...

THE MAIN REASON FOR FIGHTING HIM IN KONOHA...

...IS TO PREVENT JURA FROM INTERVENING.

!

WHAT ?!

HE'S BEEN FREQUENTLY SIGHTED.

BEEN DROPPING BY BOOKSTORES AND SWEETS SHOPS REGULARLY.

FOR WHAT-EVER REASON...

...HE'S TAKEN A LIKING TO OUR VILLAGE.

...

WHY NOT?

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I'VE ORDERED THE KONOHA POLICE TO KEEP THEIR DISTANCE TOO.
I'VE BEEN HAVING THE SENSORY UNIT REPORT ANY SIGHTINGS...
...BUT WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE HIM ALONE.

FOR REAL?

SLRP
ｽﾞ…

EVEN IF HE GETS DUMB?

JURA FROWNS UPON RUNNING AMOK IN KONOHA.

MAMUSHI KNOWS THIS VERY WELL.

SO TO AVOID INCURRING JURA'S WRATH...

...HE'LL REFRAIN FROM NEEDLESS DESTRUCTION.

IT'S INSTINCTIVE. NO MATTER...

...HOW MUCH HIS INTELLIGENCE DROPS...

...HIS DREAD OF JURA WILL NEVER DISAPPEAR.

...HIS SENSE OF PURPOSE--TARGETING EIDA.

NOR...

ゴオオオ VWOOOO

THUS, IN ORDER TO TAKE ON ONLY MAMUSHI...

...DISPOSING OF HIM IN KONOHA VILLAGE IS IDEAL.

AND INOJIN...

WE NEED YOU TO MASTER A NEW JUTSU.

...

I SEE...

IT WOULDN'T BE EXAGGERATING TO SAY IT'LL BE THE KEY IN THE UPCOMING BATTLE AGAINST MAMUSHI.

IT'S A SUPERIOR VERSION OF THE MIND TRANSMIS-SION JUTSU.

AND THE REASON WE INVITED YOU HERE.

.....

HUH...?

A NEW JUTSU?

...

WITHIN TWO DAYS?!

WHOA, HOLD ON.

WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT KIND OF JUTSU IT IS?

SO THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE. WE'LL NEED YOU TO PERFECT IT...

...WITHIN TWO DAYS AT MOST.

MAMUSHI WILL SHOW UP IN KONOHA IN ABOUT A WEEK...

IT MIGHT EVEN BE EARLIER THAN THAT.

WHAT ..

..DID YOU JUST SAY?

IT SHOULD BE POS-SIBLE.

SINCE IT'S SOMETHING YOU WERE GOING TO COME UP WITH ANYWAY...

...IN ORDER TO AVENGE HIMAWARI.

...BUT THE THEORIES AND TECHNIQUES YOU GAINED...

...FROM IT HAPPENING WERE OF GREAT VALUE.

IT'S A FUTURE WE MUST AVOID, OF COURSE...

THAT SURE GOT YOUR ATTENTION.

...

...IMPART THEM TO YOU.

SO, I SHALL ...

...

I'LL LEARN IT IN ONE, JUST YOU WATCH!

I DON'T NEED TWO DAYS!

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...BUT IT DOES SEEM LIKE HE TOOK DAMAGE.

HIS EXPRESSION IS HARD TO READ...

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AND THAT TREE HE'S GROWING...

...IT'S ALMOST DEFINITELY THE SAME DIVINE TREE THAT HE'S COMPOSED OF.

WELL?

ANYTHING AT ALL?

FORGET WEAK-NESSES.

IT ALMOST MAKES YOU THINK HE MIGHT BE...

...IMPOS-SIBLE TO KILL.

...BUT THE TREES CAN FUNCTION AS POWERFUL WEAPONS AND IMPREGNABLE SHIELDS AS WELL.

SO NOT ONLY DO THEY HEAL WOUNDS...

...THAT HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY WEAK-NESSES?

SO WHAT? ARE YOU SAYING...

...

I NEED MORE.

BUT NOT WITH MY CURRENT FIRE-POWER.

HE CAN BE TAKEN DOWN.

I FELT IT WHEN I FOUGHT HIM.

KAWAKI, DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, BUT...

...YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T—

GAH...

GRD

IF YOU STILL...

...WANT MY HELP WITH YOUR DAUGHTER...

WANT ME TO CRUSH YOUR THROAT?

QUIT MAKING EXCUSES AND JUST DO WHAT YOU'RE TOLD!

9!!
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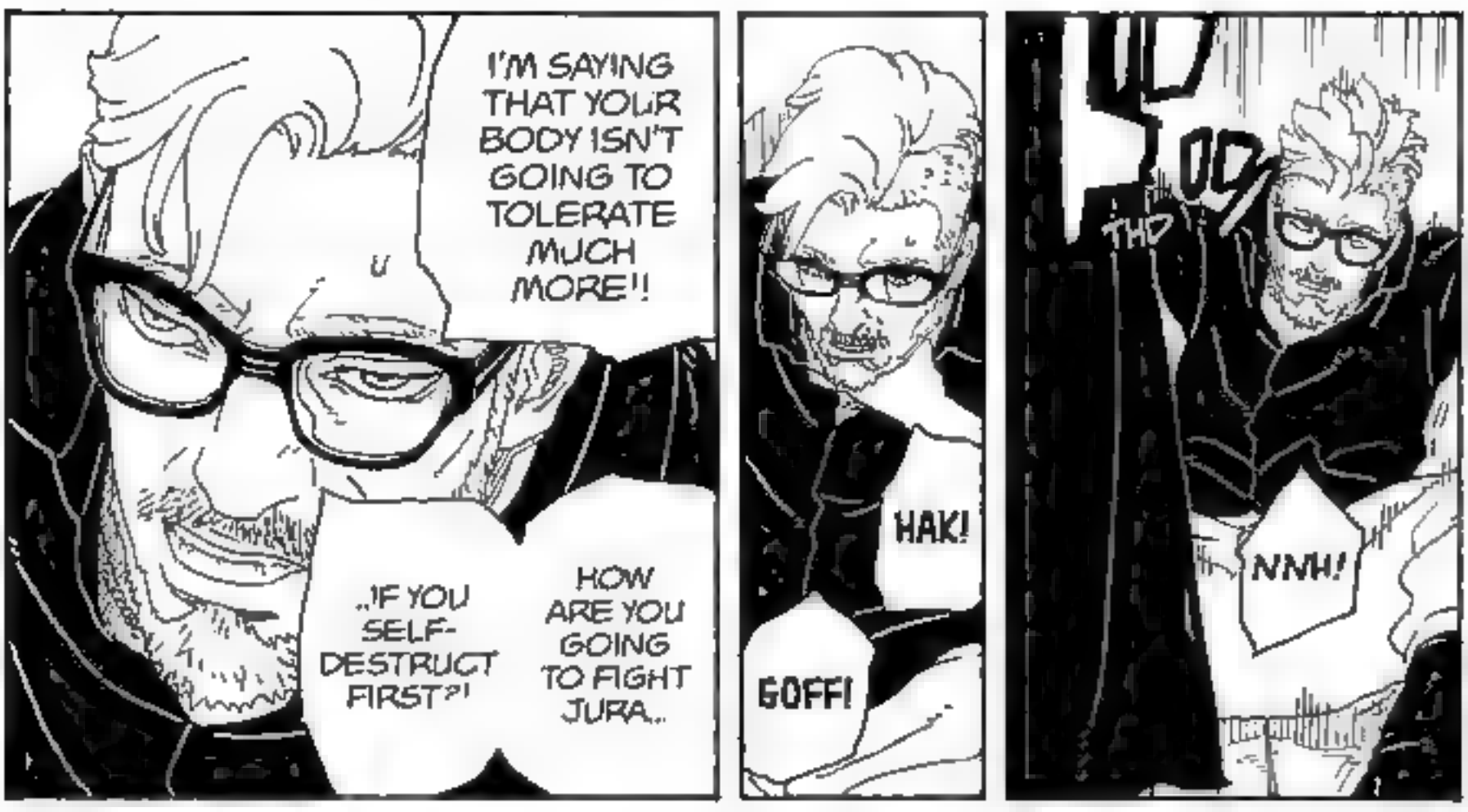
9!!
9!!
9!!
9!!


I'M SAYING THAT YOUR BODY ISN'T GOING TO TOLERATE MUCH MORE!!
..IF YOU SELF-DESTRUCT FIRST?!
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO FIGHT JURA..
HAK!
GOFF!
THD
OD
NNH!

9!!

...BUT I'M ONLY GRANTING YOUR WISH...

...*AFTER* I'VE ELIMINATED OUR ENEMIES.

I DON'T LIKE REPEATING MYSELF...

9!!oo

9!!ooo

9!!

YOUR ONLY CHOICE...

...IS TO TAKE THE GAMBLE...

...ON WHETHER I KILL OUR ENEMIES...

...OR DIE FIRST.

YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR DAUGHTER AGAIN?

9!!

THEN HURRY UP AND ACCEPT YOUR LOT IN LIFE.

9!!

9!!ooo

UNFOR-TUNATELY, THAT DOESN'T OFFER AN OUNCE OF CREDIBILITY.

FOR IT'S PERFECTLY NATURAL AND REASONABLE FOR A MOLE TO CONDUCT THEMSELF IN SUCH A WAY.

I WAS IN THE PROCESS OF INTERRO-GATING BORUTO!

AS ORDERED!

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VWOO

I TOLD YOU ALREADY!

WHICH IS WHY WE NEED TO INVESTIGATE.

AND THE REASON YOU ARE HERE RIGHT NOW.

BUT NOW?

...I DETESTED BORUTO.

AT THE TIME...

...OF THAT INTERRO-GATION...

...

...BUT DON'T YOU THINK YOU WERE JUST BEING TACTFULLY PLAYED?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE TOLD YOU...

...TOWARDS THE IDEA OF HIM AS A TRAITOR.

I'M FEELING SOME KIND OF CONTRA-DICTION...

I COULD BE KIND AND SAY HE'S NAIVE...

HE SIMPLY DOESN'T HAVE THE CHARACTER OF A MOLE.

...BUT HE'S JUST DIM...

AND FURTHER-MORE...

DO YOU TRULY COMPREHEND THE SITUATION YOU ARE CURRENTLY IN?

...I'M AMAZED YOU WOULD COME OUT AND SAY THAT UNDER THESE CIRCUM-STANCES.

...

KONOHA-MARU.

IT'S ME. ANSWER ONLY IN YOUR HEAD.

...HELPED BORUTO ESCAPE...

WHICH MEANS SOMEONE ELSE...

I'M THE ONE WHO LET...

...BORUTO ESCAPE.

LORD EIGHTH?

?!

JUST STAY CALM AND HEAR ME OUT, OKAY?

THERE'S NO TIME, SO I'M GONNA BE DIRECT.

...

?!

BUT WHY...?

...

I GAVE MITSUKI THE CODE TO UNLOCK HIS SHACKLES.

AND I'M STILL WORKING WITH BORUTO.

OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

YOU UNDER-STAND NOW...

...DON'T YOU?

...

GET OUT OF HERE -WITH THAT BULB RIGHT NOW!

GO!!

WAIT THERE FOR FURTHER INSTRU-CTION.

YOU HEARD ME, MOVE!!!

IT MAY ONLY BE A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY CATCH ON TO MY ACTIONS...

...SO I KNOW I'M ASKING A LOT OF YOU, KONOHA-MARU, BUT WOULD YOU...

...HELP ME, OR RATHER...

...CONSIDER HELPING *US* OUT?

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PLEASE ...

...LEND US A HAND!

I'M NOT GOING TO FORCE YOU TO DO ANYTHING...

...BUT IF YOU'RE WILLING TO TRUST ME...

ゴゴゴ

THEN I SHOULD GET GOING TOO...

I LOST TRACK OF TIME.

I NEED TO HEAD TO THE LAB SOON.

ゴオオ
WOO

OH!

HELP, SUMIRE?

UH...

I'M NOT LETTING YOU LEAVE, SARADA!

GLOM

WE STILL HAVE THINGS TO TALK ABOUT!

GRIN

HAVE FUN!

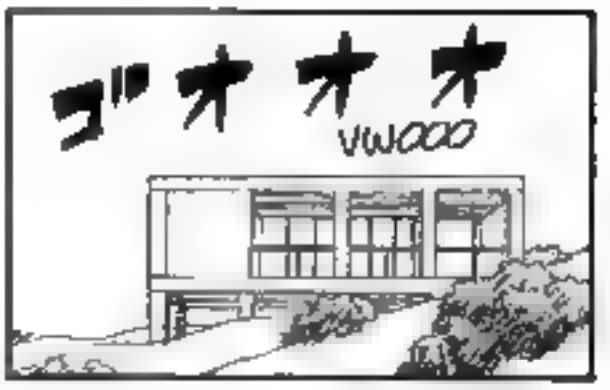
LATER, SARADA.

TMP TMP

BORUTO!

HEY.

FSH
!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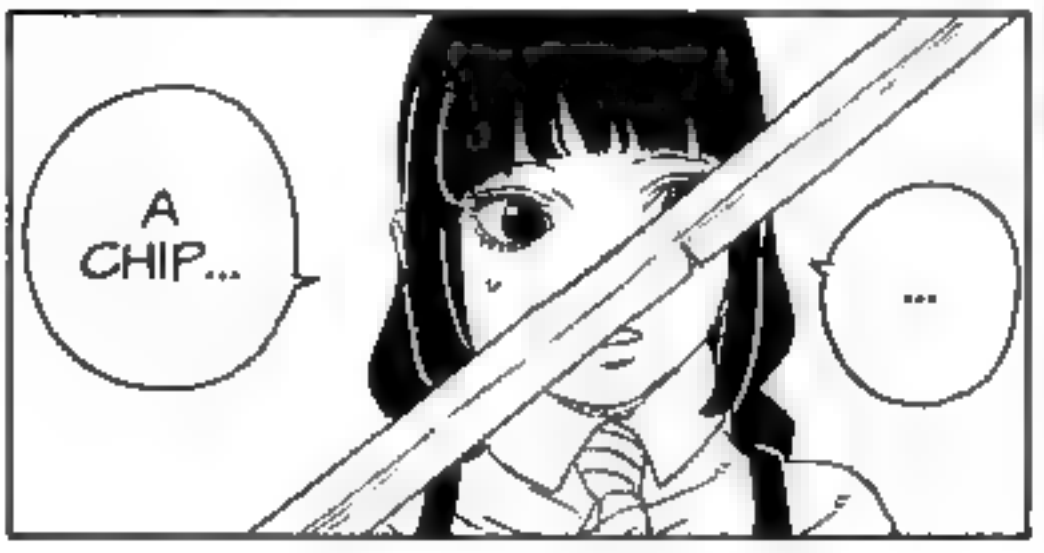
VWOOO

...

SHF
...AND THIS WAS THE RESULT.
...BUT I LOST FOCUS FOR JUST AN INSTANT...


A CHIP...
...

THE UCHIHA FLOWING BLADE JUTSU~ HAGOROMO ...
...AND PREVENTS CHIPPING, BY CONTINUOUSLY ENVELOPING IT IN CHAKRA...
IT'S A JUTSU THAT INCREASES A BLADE'S SHARPNESS...

RSTL

HUH?

ME?

SORRY, CLASS REP, BUT...

...COULD YOU FIX IT WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK?

SHF

...

TAKE A LOOK?

THIS...

...TECH-NOLOGY IS...!

I CAN'T SAY ANY MORE, BUT...

...WILL YOU DO IT?

ゴゴゴ

IT DOESN'T EXIST IN OUR WORLD YET.

YEAH.

THOUGH YOU WOULD EVENTUALLY DEVELOP IT...

...THROUGH YOUR CURRENT RESEARCH, CLASS REP.

ゴゴゴ

...

...

IF I WERE TO USE THIS TECH-NOLOGY TO FIX IT...

IS THAT OKAY?

...I FEEL LIKE THE BLADE MIGHT BE REBORN AS SOMETHING ALMOST COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

AS LONG AS IT ENDS UP STRONGER ...

SHF

...I DON'T THINK MY MASTER WOULD OBJECT.

OKAY, FINE.

BUT THERE'S JUST ONE...

...PROB-LEM.

WHAT IS IT?

YOU NEED TO CALL ME "SUMIRE."

NO MORE "CLASS REP."

...

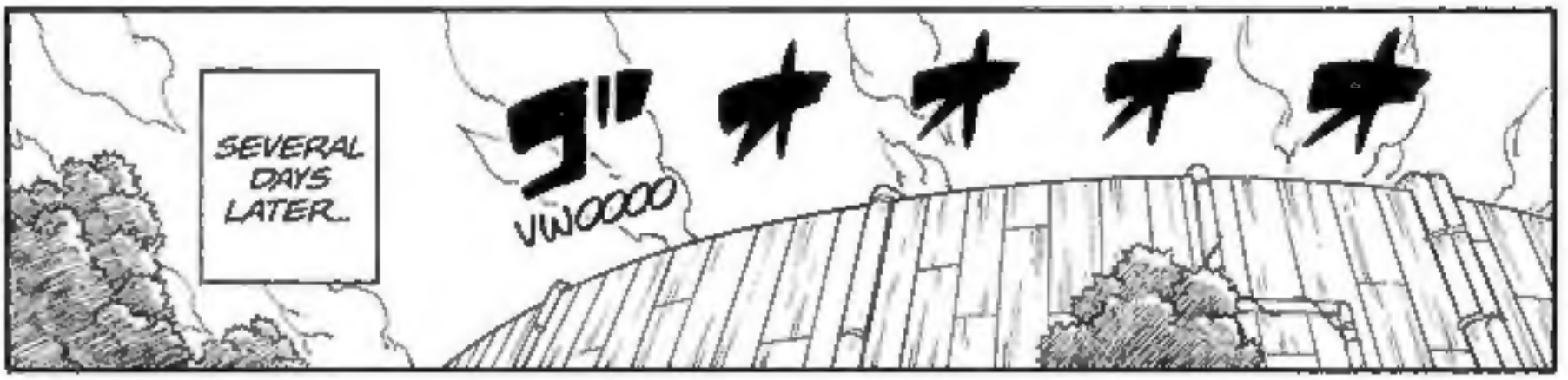
I'M GONNA JAZZ IT UP!

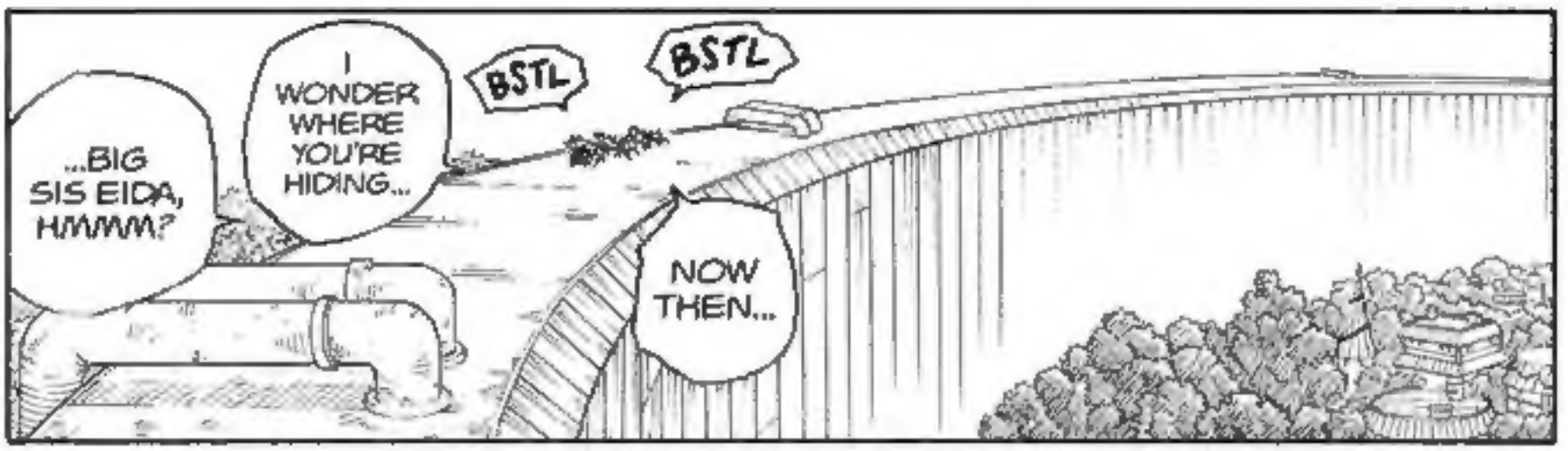
LOOK FORWARD TO IT!

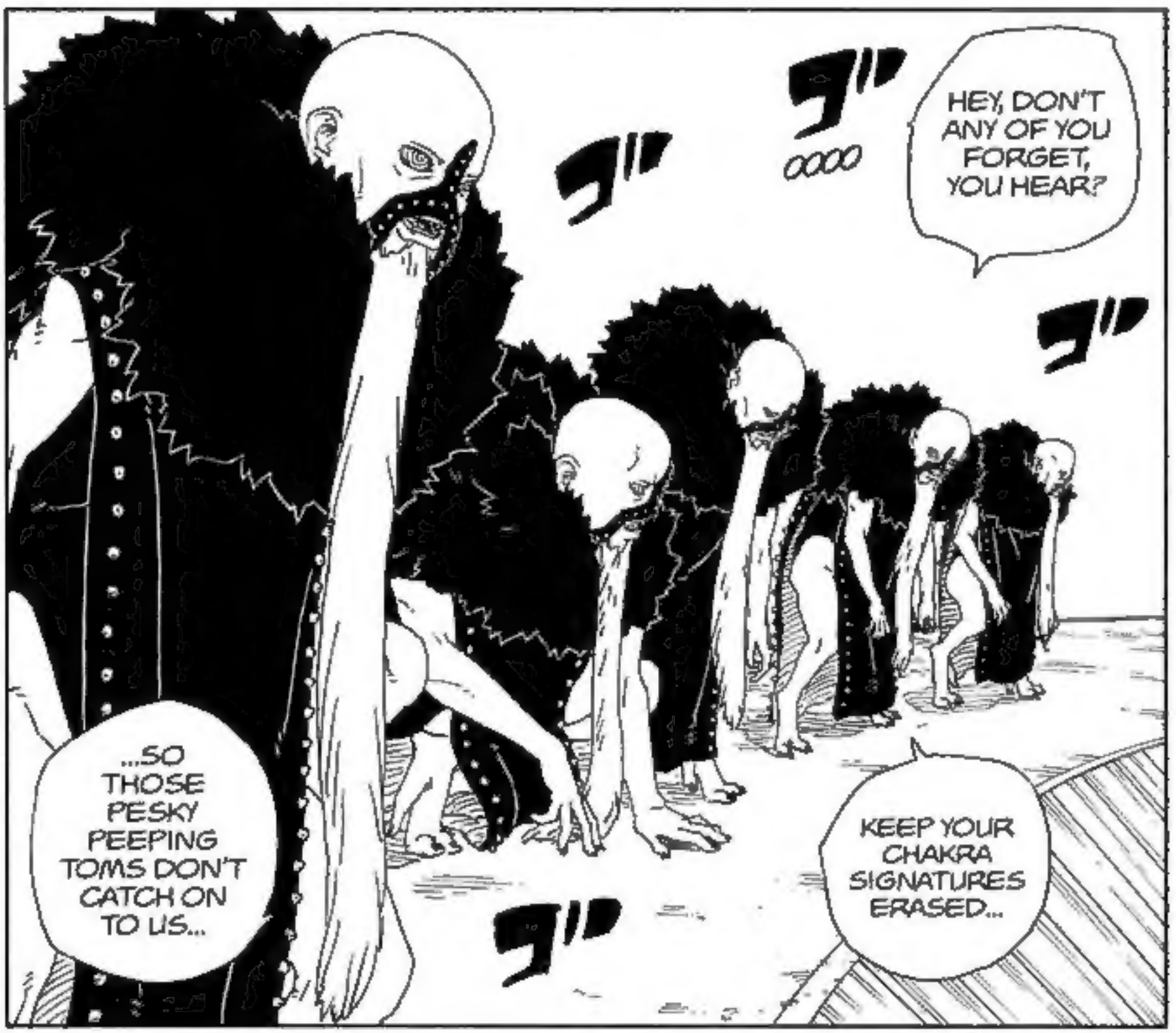
HUH?

TEE HEE.

...







To be continued!